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AS

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/369,980

07/30/99

GALLOWAY

D

24180-044002



IM22/1230



EXAMINER

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DYE, R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1772

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DATE MAILED:

12/30/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trad marks

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Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/369,980

Applicant(s)
Galloway et al.

Examiner
Rena L. Dye

Group Art Unit
1772



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 30, 1999

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 17, 18, 20, and 21 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 17, 18, 20, and 21 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claims 17-18 and 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 17, line 5, the term "second layer" is unclear, since applicant is previously reciting "second and third adhesive layers".

In claim 17, reciting "a fifth layer" is unclear, since the recitation of "a fourth layer" is not present in the claim.

In claim 20, line 3, "said fourth layer" has no antecedent basis and is therefore indefinite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Babrowicz (5,837,335).

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Babrowicz teaches a multiple layer polymeric film comprising a first barrier layer of PVDC- blend having first and second opposing surfaces; an adhesive layer disposed on each of the opposing surfaces of the first barrier layer; an a layer comprising ethylene vinyl acetate and disposed adjacent to the third layer or adhesive layer; and a fifth layer comprising a copolymer formed by the polymerization reaction with a single site catalyst and disposed adjacent to the layer of ethylene vinyl acetate. The outside layer is a blend of 80% homogenous ethylene/alpha-olefin. Refer to Table VI of column 25 and Figure 7.

Babrowicz teaches that the term used herein "homogenous polymer" refers to polymerization reaction products of relatively narrow molecular weight distribution and composition distribution, and are typically prepared using metallocene, or other single-site catalysis (column 13, lines 5-18).

4. Claims 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Babrowicz (5,837,335).

Although Example VI specifically teaches PVDC-blend as the material for use in the barrier layer, Babrowicz discloses other materials for use as a barrier material, such as ethylene vinyl alcohol (EVOH) (column 9, lines 25-32). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have substituted the EVOH for the PVDC blend in the barrier layer.

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Although Babrowicz fails to specifically teach the recited thicknesses of each layer of film, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have varied the thicknesses of the film to have provided desired strength, flexibility and barrier properties.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to R. Dye whose telephone number is (703) 308-4331.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rena L. Dye', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rena L. Dye
Primary Examiner
Tech Center 1700

R. Dye
December 20, 1999